



Purina Pro Plan German Shorthaired Pointer Handler of the Year Awards Program

Revised January 1, 2026



Purina Pro Plan is pleased to sponsor the "German Shorthaired Pointer Handler of the Year Awards Program." The award is designed to reward and recognize the Open Handler and Amateur Handler who accumulates the greatest number of points in qualifying trials as determined by the Handler Awards Committee. The committee will consist of four members (two each selected by the GSPCA and the NGSPA) and will approve qualifying trials and modify guidelines as appropriate. Program points will be accumulated during the calendar year.

HANDLER QUALIFICATIONS

Open Handler: Points accumulated in Open Shooting Dog, Open Gun Dog, Open Limited Gun Dog, Open All Age, Open Limited All Age, and all Grand Open Limited Stakes.

Amateur Handler: Points accumulated in handling dogs that they themselves or immediate family members own, or are within the allowable limits of amateur handled dogs (currently 2 for NGSPA and 3 for AKC) in the following stakes: Amateur Shooting Dog, Amateur Gun Dog, Amateur Limited Gun Dog, Amateur All Age, Amateur Limited All Age, and all Grand Amateur Limited Stakes. AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship, AKC Walking Gun Dog Championship, and GSPCA Open events will permit amateurs to choose to count wins only toward amateur points if no amateur event is held.

QUALIFYING TRIALS

- ◆ NGSPA Nationals, Invitations, and all NGSPA Championships including Regionals, and Species.
- ◆ GSPCA Nationals, the AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship, and the AKC Walking Gun Dog Championship. GSP placements only.
- ◆ One American Field Trial will be included – the German All Breed (NGPDA).
- ◆ 15 GSPCA member clubs will be selected to host an additional 15 Purina Qualifying Trials. They may designate up to two stakes, each requiring a minimum 3-Point Major. One Amateur stake, one Amateur Limited stake, one Open stake, one Open Limited stake, one Grand Amateur Limited stake, one Grand Open Limited stake, one Regional Grand Open Limited stake, or one Regional Grand Amateur Limited stake. The selected clubs will be evenly divided between the East, Central, and West sections. The events will be held throughout the field trial season.

HANDLER AWARD POINTS FOR EVENT				
	Winner	RU	3rd	4th
NGSPA National	775	450		
NGSPA Invitations	725			
NGSPA Species Championships	450	300		
NGSPA Championships	300	200		
GSPCA National	775	450	300	225
GSPCA (AKC) / 30 or 45 min.	200	125		
GSPCA (AKC) Grand stakes and Regional Grand Championships/60 min.	300	200		
AKC Pt. Breed Gun Dog Championships (GSP Placements)	775	450	300	225
German All Pt. Breed National (NGPDA)	775	450		

ADDITIONAL AWARD POINTS (adds to Event Points)	
Dogs Entered Factor:	
Champion/1st:	8 points x dogs entered
Runner Up/2nd:	4 points x dogs entered
AKC Nationals/3rd:	3 points x dogs entered
4th:	2 points x dogs entered
Invitational Champion:	8 points x total dogs run during trial (day 1 + day 2 + day 3)
Wild Bird Trial Bonus:	50 Bonus Points for Event

TIE BREAKER SYSTEM: In case of a tie, the winner would be the handler: 1) with the highest point total in national events; 2) who defeated the highest number of dogs; 3) with the highest number of placements in recognized trials. If the tie remains unbroken, co-winners would be declared.

HANDLER OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION / PRIZES

"Purina Pro Plan German Shorthaired Pointer Handler of the Year Awards" will be presented at a Nationals' banquet hosted by Purina Pro Plan..

The Open Handler of the Year recipient will be awarded a GSP Handler of the Year Montana Silversmiths Belt Buckle (or if applicable, a diamond to be added to their existing HOY ring), and 12 bags of Pro Plan product. Purina Pro Plan will award a check for \$1,000 and double it to \$2,000 if the handler is a Pro Plan feeder and an active Purina Pro Club member. All prizes awarded by Purina Pro Plan.

The Amateur Handler of the Year recipient will be awarded a GSP Handler of the Year Montana Silversmiths Belt Buckle, and 12 bags of Pro Plan product. Purina will deposit 25,000 points (\$250 value) in their Pro Club Account and double it to 50,000 points (\$500 value) if the handler is a Pro Plan feeder and an active Purina Pro Club member. All prizes awarded by Purina Pro Plan.

HOST CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND BENEFITS

The Nestlé Purina Company will provide GSPCA and NGSPA clubs hosting qualifying trials with product for winners, banners, and other applicable items. Host club's benefit from the prestige of this Program and are responsible for providing a report to the individual designated by the Award Committee to be responsible for tabulating and publishing results.